



SPANISH

Lesson Summary

Lesson

UNIT 5

Situations

3

The Correct Use of Tense- Imperfect

INTRODUCTION

Your examination question will require you to write an essay in the past tense. In this lesson you will look at one of the three past tenses which are applicable to the essay.

Imperfect

Preterite

Pluperfect

Remember that tense must be clearly marked so as not to confuse the reader. It will say exactly when what happened. In Spanish your tense marker is also a person marker; it will say who did what. Exercise caution and put some thought into your verb tenses and you are sure to produce a composition that you can be proud of.

OBJECTIVES

At the end of this lesson you will be able to:

- a) Correctly select the appropriate main tenses- preterite and imperfect for the composition
- b) Form and recognise the preterite and imperfect
- c) Use the imperfect tense in your composition



GETTING STARTED

First your tutor will guide you through the revision of the two main past tenses; the preterite and the imperfect. These can be found on page 11 of your text.



ACTIVITY 1

You will complete the worksheet of multiple choice items to ensure that you know the preterite and imperfect. You can use your dictionary to assist with vocabulary that you may not know. Your tutor will correct and discuss the answers in class paying attention to the person marker.

THE IMPERFECT

In lesson two you were presented with the verbs of perception in these two tenses. In lesson one you were presented with the weather in the imperfect. Having started in the imperfect, let us look at the reasons for using the imperfect

- 1) description or painting the scene eg time, weather
- 2) saying what was going on when something else happened
- 3) expressing habitual action/ saying what used to happen
- 4) expressing repeated action

Your tutor will then allow you to practice using the imperfect as required in several compositions. It is a good idea to follow on with the same topics used in the last two lessons.

- ☺ e.g. 1 **Sample two** in the stadium already identified what the Argentineans were doing; <<gritaban los argentinos>> Practice saying what other spectators were doing what George and Angel were doing and what the players and referee were doing.
- ☺ e.g.2 **Sample four** suggests that the writer performed badly in his school exams. You may then imagine what his habits were during the last term. Your tutor will allow you to express them from the writer's perspective (First person) using the imperfect.
- ☺ e.g. 3 **Sample three** shows that there were some environmental changes taking place. There was an unbearable heat, the birds were leaving the village and the writer did not get the cool sea breeze he expected. Imagine that some habits of the villagers caused this to happen or imagine that a storm came and caught the village unprepared. Describe those habits. Your tutor will let you write them using the imperfect.



ASSESSMENT

Your tutor will allow you to discuss any concerns you may have and will evaluate your work as you go along.

CONCLUSION

Congratulate yourself on completing the imperfect for the essay. In the next lesson you will practice the other two tenses.

!Adelante a lección cinco!